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Request for Telephone Interview

Applicants kindly request the Examiner to contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone interview, to discuss the merits of this Patent Application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mahany, II, U.S. Patent 4,725,316.

Applicants' claimed invention is a method for producing printed surfaces which fluoresce under ultraviolet light. Applicants' Claim 1 requires a four-color printing method. A defined ratio is set in the four-color printing method between one group of fluorescent pigments of print colors yellow, blue (cyan) and red (magenta) and special color tones and a second group of non-fluorescent pigments of the print colors.

The Mahany, II Patent discloses a method of preparing photoluminescent color pigments that have a predictable color under ambient illuminating radiation and in the dark (Abstract). In other words, the Mahany, II Patent discloses a method of preparing phosphorescent colors that glow in the dark (Column 1, lines 58-64 and Column 3, lines 25-39). The photoluminescent pigments of the Mahany, II Patent includes 87-97.8% phosphorescent pigments and a minor

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amount of fluorescent pigments and common pigments to complement the phosphorescent pigments.

The Examiner alleges that the Mahany, II Patent discloses at Column 2, lines 34-39, "4-color process pigments [that] are identified as being "fluorescent." Applicants respectfully point out to the Examiner that the Mahany, II patent does not disclose or suggest a printing method, such as the four-color printing method of Applicants' claimed invention. The Mahany, II Patent discusses a theoretical four-color primary system, which is not a printing method. The Mahany, II also does not disclose forming fluorescent pigments or printing surfaces that fluoresce under ultraviolet light, as in Applicants' claimed invention.

As the Mahany, II Patent does not disclose or suggest either forming fluorescent pigments or printing with a four-color printing method, the Mahany, II Patent does not teach each and every limitation of Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, the Mahany, II Patent does not anticipate Applicants' invention of Claim 1.

Claim Objections

Claims 2-6 have been objected to as being dependent upon rejected base Claim 1. Applicants respectfully assert for the reasons discussed above that Claim 1